

ness about furnaces, 2; bedding falling against stovepipes, 1; children playing with shavings, 1; children playing with lucifer matches, 1; a child with lighted lamp in the stable, 1; stovepipe too near timbers, 1; sparks from a passing locomotive, 1. Total 39. It is worthy of notice that during the past year the number of incendiary fires were less than for many years previous. These were, however, circumstances connected with some of these last year, which induced a strong belief that the sum insured was the moving cause to commit the crime. The causes of the unnecessary alarms were: Chimneys on fire, 12; fires in the country, 5; old broken stove overheated, 1; crying fire in the streets, 1; phosphorus in drug store igniting, 1; the Don Marsh on fire, 1; accident with oil lamp, 1. Total 22.

Statement of the aggregate Loss and number of Fires in each Ward of the City, in each of the last five years.

WARDS.	1867.		1866.		1865.		1864.		1863.	
	NO. OF FIRES.	LOSS.								
St. Lawrence	12	\$18,069	4	\$2,955	2	\$2,700	5	\$12,012	11	\$6,985
" David's	6	2,224	11	6,210	9	9,655	8	3,710	8	8,254
" James	2	12	8	4,678	11	2,668	6	1,417	5	5,710
" George's	3	2,312	7	22,693	4	8,560	5	52,305	4	765
" Andrew's	9	7,670	10	2,747	10	45,400	9	6,835	7	6,005
" John's	4	75	11	4,913	6	2,640	10	4,787	8	1,516
" Patrick's	3	1,810	4	2,043	5	12,910	4	1,700	4	3,300
	39	\$32,172	55	\$46,839	47	\$84,533	47	\$82,856	47	\$32,515

The supply of water to extinguish fires during the year 1867, at which any of the engines were employed, was obtained as follows:—From the bay for 3 fires, from wells and a creek 2 do., from the corporation water tanks for 8 do., the hydrants connected with the water works 10 do., total, 23 fires. The total quantity of water used from the Water Works during the year, for extinguishing fire, did not exceed 150,000 gallons. As stated in former reports, the Water Works extend to but a small portion of the city, and some of the mains or pipes are so small that of the comparatively few hydrants (85) in the city, there are ten or twelve, none of which will afford a sufficient supply for any of the fire engines. There are no hydrants west of Peter street, and but eight east of Nelson street, three of which are of the useless number. There are no hydrants north of Queen street, except on Yonge street, and three on Church street, three on Gerrard street, four on Agnes street, and in other different places, three that are useless. Nor are there any hydrants south of King street, that will afford a sufficient supply for an engine, except

two on Peter street. From this it may be seen that the few exceptions above referred to, the hydrants are confined to the limits bounded as follows:—On the west by Peter street, on the east by Nelson street, on the north by Queen street, and on the south by King street.

After another year's experience I am again enabled to say that since the introduction of steam fire engines in this city—owing in part to the small portion of the city to which the water works extend—there has not been in any one year, three-fourths of a million gals. of water used from the hydrants for extinguishing fire. The quantity used during the year 1867, as before stated, did not exceed 150,000 gallons, for which the sum of \$4,525—to be paid under the existing arrangement, is upwards of \$30 for every 1000 gallons used, while the proprietors of the baths, on Adelaide street, has, it is said, a contract under which the water-works are bound to give up to that establishment a sufficient and uninterrupted supply to the extent of 3,000,000 gallons yearly for \$600 per annum, and any further quantity that may be required, at the rate of 20c per 1000 gallons.

In order to afford to a few of the many parts of the city, far distant from the water-works, or any other supply of water for extinguishing fire, some means of protection against loss by fire, the City Council of last year, on the report of the standing committee on fire, water and gas, made an appropriation for the construction of water-tanks, and before the close of the five double tanks, and one small one were added to the number of those already built. Each double tank will contain nearly 14,000 gallons, and will afford a good supply to an engine, doing ordinary fire work, for about one hour and a half. It may be observed that for extinguishing fire during the past year, the tanks were used nearly as often as the hydrants. In ever instance the tanks afforded a prompt and uninterrupted supply, and more than sufficient on every occasion called on. From tanks the engines work much more satisfactorily than from hydrants, and have a full and sufficient supply of water the moment they are ready to work, and while their is water in the tank can work as required, without any interruption or stoppages to clean out the Suction Hose Strainer, which has had to be done repeatedly while working from hydrants.

After stating the location of the several water tanks, and making some suggestions as to the location of some smaller ones, the important statement is made that—"The Water Works Company having given notice that the present arrangement for the supply of water from the hydrants for extinguishing fire, shall terminate on the 30th June next, it may not be out of place here to state that with these small tanks as above mentioned (and they are absolutely necessary under any any circumstances), it is practicable to furnish a good supply of water to a greater extent (over the city), and far more reliable at all times for extinguishing fires than that furnished by the Water Works Company and at much less cost."

The Report proceeds to give the details of the location, arrangement and condition of the different engines and material of the department, which are scarcely of sufficient interest to our readers to recount.

INSURANCE—PROVISIONAL RECEIPT.—A. applied to an agent of the Royal Insurance Company to effect an insurance and paid the premium. The agent gave the usual receipt, following a form supplied by the Company, and which declared that a policy would be issued by the Company in sixty days if approved of by the Manager at Toronto: that otherwise the receipt would be cancelled and the amount of unearned premium refunded, and that the receipt would be void should camphene oil be used on the premises. The agent did not report the transaction to the Company, and after the expiration of sixty days a fire occurred. Held, 1st. That this receipt contained a valid contract for interim insurance. Held, 2dly. That the Company, and not the insured, should sustain any damage occasioned by the agent's neglect, and that the Company was liable for the loss by the fire.—Patterson v. Royal Insurance Co.—14th Rep., 169.

Mining.

MINING IN 1867—QUEBEC.—The rich deposit of magnetic iron in Hull, opposite Ottawa, continues to be worked with every prospect of success. The smelting is done by charcoal and wood. An excellent quality of iron is produced.

Plumbago or Graphite has been worked by the Canada Plumbago Company of Montreal in Buckingham. An average of 50 men have been employed during the summer, and 20 in winter. A stamp mill has been in operation, producing a ton a day, worth about \$120. The price has lately risen to \$200 a ton. In the adjoining township the Lochaber Plumbago Company, an American one, have a mill in operation, and employed about 40 men during the summer.

The discovery of galena in Buckingham has, so far, not resulted in any profitable mining.

Gold has been found near L'Industrie, in felsite, in the proportion of about \$6 to the ton of rock.

The Canada Peat Company, using Hodge's process, have prosecuted their operations at La Pigeoniere. A good quality of peat has been manufactured, and used successfully on the Grand Trunk Railway.

The works at Bulstrode, on the Arthabaska Railway, have been given up for the present.

Nothing whatever is being done at the Acton Copper Mine.

At the Melbourne Slate Quarry a new level has been opened. The produce of the quarry has been 30 squares per day. The quality continues to be all that could be desired. The Rockland Quarry, west of the Melbourne, has been further developed. It gives employment to between 26 and 30 men. The Prince Albert Quarry, still further west, is undergoing development, and employs about a dozen men. Two other quarries are also being opened in the neighbourhood of Melbourne. In Granby a quarry of red slate is being opened, under the management of Thos. Frizell. An engine and cutting machine are to be employed. It is proposed to prepare slates principally for tiles and marbleizing.

At the St. Francis Copper Mine, near Richmond, nothing has been done. The Copper Mines near Lennoxville have been carried on notwithstanding the very low price of Copper. At the Capel Mine, managed by Captain Francis Bennett, 100 men on an average have constantly employed. About 500 tons of ore per month have been prepared for the smelting works. The main shaft is now about 230 feet deep, and the main adit has been driven over 500 feet into the mountain. The smelting is a distinct department, employing 14 men, and managed by Messrs. Stanley & Son. They have been working during the greater part of the year, and have sent to the English market about 200 tons regulus of 40 per cent.

The Belvidere Mine, near the Capel, has been actively worked to within two weeks of the close of the year. Smelting works have been erected during the year under the superintendence of Mr. Thos. Macfarlane.

The Lower Canada Mine, adjoining the Belvidere, has given employment to about 25 men under Capt. Wisewell. The ore at these mines consists of copper pyrites in mundic, and requires the same treatment as all of them. The production was 210 tons regulus of 28 per cent. At the Hasket Hill Mine, three or four miles from Lennoxville, working has been done. The Huntingdon Mine in Bolton has employed 30 men. Large Crushing works have been erected, and about 2000 tons of ten per cent ore have been prepared for market. A new vein was discovered last spring, lying parallel to, and about 60 feet east of the vein upon which the shafts have been sunk. This new vein is reported to be from 8 to 10 feet wide, 4 feet of which on the foot wall of solid copper ore. The ore in both veins continues abundant at the depth sunk, 160 feet, and the length of ore ground exposed at surface is 970 feet.

Owing to the burning of all the buildings, except the engine house at the Harvey Hill Mine, work has been suspended for the winter. The smelting works had been in operation a short time before the fire took place. A valuable